

PROCEEDINGS OF THE WILSON ORNITHOLOGICAL CLUB

BY OLIN SEWALL PETTINGILL, JR., SECRETARY

The Twenty-sixth Annual Meeting of the Wilson Ornithological Club was held in Minneapolis, Minnesota, on November 21-24, 1940. Headquarters were in the Minnesota Museum of Natural History of the University of Minnesota; living and dining quarters were in an adjoining building, the Center for Continuation Study.

The Executive Council met on Thursday evening, Friday and Saturday were devoted to two short business sessions, three sessions of papers, a natural color motion pictures session, a symposium on wildlife management, a bird art exhibit, a show of motion pictures, and several social events including the Annual Dinner.

MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Dr. Josselyn Van Tyne was reappointed Editor of *The Wilson Bulletin*.

The Council accepted the invitation of the Department of Zoology of the University of Illinois and the Illinois Natural History Survey to hold its 1941 Annual Meeting at Urbana-Champaign, Illinois. The meeting time will be Friday and Saturday, November 21 and 22.

Possible locations for the 1942 and 1943 meetings were discussed and Ithaca, New York, was tentatively scheduled for 1942.

To stimulate increase in the Club's endowment through additional life memberships, the Treasurer was authorized to offer life memberships to be paid in four installments of twenty-five dollars each, the balance to be applied toward active memberships if payments are not completed.

The need of more illustrative material in *The Wilson Bulletin* was brought to the Council's attention. The Council took immediate action by directing the transfer of all 1940 income from the endowment toward illustrations and authorizing the appointment of an Illustrations Committee to build up additional funds.

The Editor and Treasurer reported that the costs of publishing the *Bulletin* were rising, resulting in a reduction in the number of pages and the delayed publication or rejection of many important manuscripts. The Council responded by taking two courses of action: (1) Instructing the Treasurer to approach all Associate Members of five or more years standing and urge them to become Active Members. (2) Suggesting two possible amendments to Article II, Section 3, of the Constitution which now reads in part: "The annual dues of associate members shall be one dollar and fifty cents (\$1.50). The annual dues of active members shall be two dollars and fifty cents (\$2.50)."

One amendment reads: The dues of all associate members shall be raised from one dollar and fifty cents (\$1.50) to two dollars (\$2.00); the dues of all active members from two dollars and fifty cents (\$2.50) to three dollars (\$3.00).

The other amendment reads: All associate memberships shall be limited to five years, at the end of which time associate memberships automatically become active memberships.

These proposed amendments were placed in the table to be voted on at the next Annual Meeting.

In behalf of the Wilson Ornithological Club the Council accepted affiliation with the American Ornithologists' Union. This action permits the Wilson Ornithological Club to be represented on the Executive Council of the American Ornithologists' Union by one delegate. The Council instructed the President to appoint the delegate together with one alternate.

BUSINESS SESSIONS

The first business session was called to order by President Lawrence E. Hicks on Friday morning at 9:30. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved without being read since they had already been published in *The Wilson Bulletin*. The reports of the Secretary, Treasurer, Editor, and Librarian were read and approved.

The President appointed three temporary committees.

They were:

Resolutions: L. H. Walkinshaw, J. Murray Speirs, and O. A. Stevens.

Auditing: Albert F. Ganier and Theodora Nelson.

Nominating: Margaret M. Nice, Earl G. Wright, and W. J. Breckenridge.

A list of persons nominated to membership during the current year was placed on the table for approval by the organization.

The reports of the following committees were read and approved: Program, Endowment Fund, Affiliated Societies, Index, Library, Wildlife Conservation and Membership.

The second and final business session was called to order at 4:45 Saturday afternoon by Vice-President Sutton.

Persons nominated to membership during the current year were formally elected.

The Resolutions Committee presented the following resolutions which were then adopted:

Resolved, that the Wilson Ornithological Club at its Twenty-sixth Annual Meeting on November 21-24, 1940, in Minneapolis, Minnesota, wishes to express its deepest thanks to its hosts who have made this meeting so pleasant and successful: to the University of Minnesota, especially to Dr. Thomas S. Roberts and staff of the Minnesota Museum of Natural History and to Mrs. Ruth Lawrence and staff of the University Gallery; the members of the Minneapolis Audubon Society, the Minnesota Bird Club, and the Public Library Bird Club; and to the members of the Local Committee.

Whereas, the Wilson Ornithological Club learns of extensive illegal traffic in the plumage of wild birds in connection with renewed popularity of feathers for millinery purposes, therefore, be it *Resolved*, that the Wilson Ornithological Club goes on record as opposed to the use for millinery purposes, of any wild bird plumage, coming from within or without the United States; be it further *Resolved*, that the officers of the Wilson Ornithological Club join with the National Audubon Society and other organizations to aid in disseminating information to the public and in seeking remedial legislative action and adequate enforcement; and be it still further *Resolved*, that the Wilson Ornithological Club asks for the cooperation of the individual members and affiliated clubs in conveying to the managements of leading department stores and millinery establishments in principal cities throughout the country information as to their opposition to such use of wild bird plumage.

The Nominating Committee offered the following report:

President—Lawrence E. Hicks, Ohio Wildlife Research Station, Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio.

First Vice-President—George Miksch Sutton, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York.

Second Vice-President—S. Charles Kendeigh, University of Illinois, Champaign, Illinois.

Secretary—Olin Sewall Pettingill, Jr., Carleton College, Northfield, Minnesota.

Treasurer—Gustav Swanson, University Farm, St. Paul, Minnesota.

Additional Members of the Executive Council—Maurice Brooks, West Virginia University, Morgantown, West Virginia; Miles D. Pirnie, W. K. Kellogg Bird Sanctuary, Battle Creek, Michigan; Lawrence H. Walkinshaw, Battle Creek, Michigan.

The report of the Nominating Committee was accepted by motion and the Secretary was authorized to cast one ballot for the nominees, thus electing them officers of the Wilson Ornithological Club for the ensuing year.

The session was formally adjourned at 5:15 P.M.

PAPERS SESSIONS

The opening session on Friday morning began with an address of welcome by Dr. Thomas S. Roberts, Director of the Minnesota Museum of Natural History, and a response by President Lawrence E. Hicks.

The remainder of the Friday morning session, a portion of the Friday afternoon session and the Saturday morning session was devoted to the reading of papers. Altogether 19 papers were given. The majority were largely technical, being devoted to the following ornithological studies: life history, 6; distribution and migration, 5; historical 1; ecological, 1; morphological, 1; pathological, 1. Two papers were based primarily on Kodachrome slides of birds; one concerned an expedition.

Below is given the program of papers together with brief abstracts:

OPENING SESSION. FRIDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 22

1. MAURICE BROOKS, West Virginia University. *Swainson's Warbler in the Mountains of West Virginia*. (15 minutes).

The paper recorded the finding of Swainson's Warbler as a locally abundant summer resident in Nicholas and Fayette Counties, West Virginia. The birds occupy areas where hemlock, rhododendron, mountain laurel, and American holly are the dominant or most abundant woody species.

2. THEODORA NELSON, Hunter College of the City of New York and the University of Michigan Biological Station. *Incubation Patches as Breeding Evidence in Shore Birds*. (10 minutes).

In studying museum specimens of shore birds it was found that incubation patches are definite in birds collected during the breeding season. An extensive study of such specimens should provide sufficient evidence (1) to conclude whether both sexes incubate and brood about equally or whether one sex does the larger part, and (2) to indicate the breeding of species in which the actual length of the breeding season is unknown.

3. F. W. HAECKER and R. ALLYN MOSER, Omaha, Nebraska. *Present Day Bird Life Along the Missouri River Compared with Say's and Audubon's Findings*. (15 minutes).

Ornithological notes made during the past 14 years while traveling almost constantly up and down the Missouri River between St. Louis and Sioux City, with an occasional trip as far upstream as Montana were compared with the findings of Thomas Say made in 1819 and 1820 and with the journals of John J. Audubon made during his expedition of 1843 in this region. Say and Audubon listed 212 species seen along the Missouri River. It was thought that the probability would be against seeing 56 of these species on similar journeys at the present day. It would be impossible to see some species for they have become extinct or else their ranges have been greatly reduced. Sixty-three species not mentioned by Audubon or Say would probably be seen at the present time. In general there has been a great decrease in game birds. Other forms, principally the smaller woodland species, seem to have increased. The relative abundance of different species has changed greatly. Reasons for the changes were suggested.

4. J. VAN TYNE, University of Michigan Museum of Zoology. *Bird Distribution Among the Islands of Northeastern Lake Michigan*. (10 minutes).

An account of the distribution of birds on the Beaver Islands of Lake Michigan as ascertained during an expedition conducted jointly by the Cranbrook Institute

of Science and the University of Michigan Museum of Zoology under the direction of Dr. Robert T. Hatt.

5. C. EDWARD CARLSON, University of Minnesota and the Minnesota Division of Game and Fish. *A Record of Several Unusual Pheasant Nests from Minnesota*. Illustrated by 2" x 2" Kodachrome slides. (15 minutes).

Accounts were given of a Ring-necked Pheasant nesting in a black mulberry tree and of another nesting in a straw stack. Two cases of extreme persistence of hens incubating addled eggs were described. Examples of nest parasitism involving the pheasant were illustrated and discussed.

6. ARNOLD V. ERICKSON, Division of Economic Zoology of the University of Minnesota. *A Study of Wilson's Snipe*. (15 minutes).

Wilson's Snipe appears to have few natural enemies. It has been reported as occurring five times in Marsh Hawks' stomachs, once in a Cooper's Hawk, and once in a Dusky Horned Owl. It has persisted in numbers large enough to keep it on the list of game species probably because it has few natural enemies, is widely distributed, nests in inaccessible places, and has an erratic flight. The most plausible explanation for the production of the sound that accompanies the nuptial performance is the tail-feather theory. Fall food of 76 snipe collected in 8 localities in Minnesota was made up of 61.43 per cent animal material and 38.40 per cent vegetable material. The bulk of the animal food consisted of snails and the larvae of midges, crane flies, horse flies and dragon flies. The vegetable food consisted of fruits of *Scirpus*, *Carex*, *Juncus*, and green plant parts. About 80 per cent of the snipes examined were infected with parasites: tapeworms, *Haploparaxis*, *Diorchis*, *Paricterotaenia*; flukes, *Hypoderaeum*, *Cyclocoelum cuneatum*, *Echinostoma revolutum*; roundworms, *Cosmocephalus capellae*; protozoa, *Sarcocystis rileyi*. The average weight of 41 females was 115.28 grams and of 32 males 117.20 grams. The average bill length of 33 females was 66.34 mm. and of 32 males 65.33 mm. There seems to be no correlation between sex and weight or bill length. Of 86 snipes, 39 were males and 47 females or .83 males for each female or 45.34 per cent males. Grazing cattle improve snipe habitat.

7. HARRY H. WILCOX, JR., University of Michigan and the University of Michigan Biological Station.

An Ecological Survey of the Birds of Reese's Bog, Cheboygan County, Michigan. Illustrated by 3 1/4" x 4" slides. (15 minutes).

A report of a study of birds inhabiting a bog area and their relationship to the various plant associations. The study was carried on during the summers of 1939 and 1940 at the University of Michigan Biological Station.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

8. MILES DAVID PIRNIE, W. K. Kellogg Bird Sanctuary, Battle Creek, Michigan. *Identifying Waterfowl*. Illustrated by 2" x 2" Kodachrome slides. (15 minutes).

Methods of identifying wild ducks in flight, when swimming, and in the hand. Emphasis was placed on size, shape, color, and pattern differences. Slides were used to demonstrate these methods.

9. LOUIS A. FRIED, Division of Economic Zoology of the University of Minnesota and the Minnesota Division of Game and Fish.

A Local Outbreak of Botulism in Western Minnesota. (15 minutes).

In 1939 and 1940 western duck sickness was reported at Lower Lightning Lake in Grant County, Minnesota, and in 1940 the outbreak was studied intensively. Five hundred and seventy-four birds representing 15 species were found sick or dead.

About 95 per cent of the birds were in advanced stages of the disease and consequently did not survive treatment. Food habit studies on these birds showed empty gizzards in almost every case. Nearly 98 per cent of the ducks were birds of the year, some not even fully feathered out. Frightening birds from the lake by shooting blank shells was very effective. The enormous quantities of green algae in the lake were later proved to be an excellent medium for the botulism bacillus.

SATURDAY MORNING

10. EVADENE BURRIS SWANSON, St. Paul, Minnesota.

The Minnesota Nestings of the Passenger Pigeon. (10 minutes).

All of the known Minnesota nestings of the Passenger Pigeon, including some hitherto obscurely known, were described and the best contemporary estimates of their population quoted. The attitude of local people toward the pigeons in Minnesota was quite different from that in the well known Michigan nestings. There was comparatively little commercialization of the Minnesota "pigeon roosts."

11. ALBERT F. GANIER, Nashville, Tennessee.

Notes on the Sycamore Warbler. (15 minutes).

A study of this southern warbler, including data on spring and fall departure, habitat and song. Especial reference was made to its nesting habits, based on a number of nests found, chiefly about Nashville, Tennessee. A decided preference was shown by these warblers for one species of tree, depending on the area where found. The species of trees preferred were, respectively, sycamore, pine, cypress, and oak.

12. J. MURRAY SPEIRS, University of Illinois.

Robin Movements. Illustrated by $3\frac{1}{4}$ " x 4" slides. (20 minutes).

A discussion of the movements of Robins, both daily movements and seasonal movements being considered.

13. ROBERT B. LEA, Carleton College and the University of Michigan Biological Station.

A Life History Study of the Cedar Waxwing. Illustrated by 2" x 2" Kodachrome and $3\frac{1}{4}$ " x 4" slides. (15 minutes).

Twelve nests of the Cedar Waxwing were found at the University of Michigan Biological Station and the nesting cycle was recorded from the time of choosing the nest site until young left the nesting territory. In this paper special attention was given to the development of the nestlings and the parental care which they received.

14. S. CHARLES KENDEIGH, University of Illinois.

Territorial and Mating Behavior in the House Wren. Illustrated by $3\frac{1}{4}$ " x 4" slides. (20 minutes).

A description of the establishment of territories, manner of defense, combats, how mates are acquired, recognition of sex, shifts in territory and rematings for second broods, and return and rematings in following years in the House Wren.

15. MARGARET M. NICE, Chicago, Illinois, and JOOST TER PELKWKYK, University of Chicago.

Some Experiments in Enemy Recognition in the Song Sparrow. (15 minutes).

Experiments were carried out on hand-raised birds with live animals, mounted birds, particularly owls, and cardboard models of the same. No inborn fear of snakes, cats or Cowbirds was found, but there did seem to be an inborn recognition of an owl. There was fear of large moving objects and rapidly moving objects.

16. GEORGE MIKSCH SUTTON, Laboratory of Ornithology, Cornell University.
First Impressions of the Bird Life of Southern Arizona. Illustrated with numerous field sketches by the speaker. (20 minutes).

The speaker made his first visit to Arizona in the spring of 1940, his primary purpose being to obtain topotypical material from that region for use in connection with his Mexican research. He spent some time at or near Tucson; visited the Santa Rita Mountains where such points as Mt. Wrightson, Florida Canyon, and Bog Springs were reached; and (with Messrs. Allan Phillips and Lyndon Hargrave of the Museum of Northern Arizona) undertook the first general ornithological survey of the Papago Indian Reservation.

17. DORIS HUESTIS SPEERS, Champaign, Illinois.
Facts and Fancies Concerning the Evening Grosbeak. Illustrated by $3\frac{1}{4}$ " x 4" slides. (20 minutes).

A discussion of three points concerning which there have been misconceptions: significance of the name, juvenal plumage, and the limits of the range of the Evening Grosbeak.

18. O. A. STEVENS, North Dakota Agricultural College.
Relation of Autumn Migration to Weather. Illustrated by $3\frac{1}{4}$ " x 4" slides. (15 minutes).

Migration in autumn has received less attention than in spring but its study has some advantages. Spring migration, in general, is delayed by cold weather, then moves rapidly. The fall movement is slower and not complicated by the breeding urge. A study of fall migration at Fargo, North Dakota, has been made, based upon trapping records for 15 years, chiefly of Harris' Sparrow on account of the abundance and readiness of this species to enter traps. The repeat records of banded birds are especially useful in showing the time of departure from the locality. Cold waves produce obvious movements, but quite regular movement occurs without marked weather changes, suggesting an inherent rhythm.

19. BERNARD W. BAKER, Marne, Michigan.
Michigan Birds in Color. Illustrated by 2" x 2" Kodachrome slides. (20 minutes).

A series of Kodachrome slides taken with a Leica camera, equipped with 135 mm. and 500 mm. lenses, showing 15 species of common birds during the nesting season.

NATURAL COLOR MOTION PICTURE SESSION SATURDAY AFTERNOON

The last session of the meeting was devoted to a showing of over 3000 feet of 16 mm. Kodachrome motion pictures.

Below is given the program of motion pictures together with brief comments on their subject matter.

20. EARL G. WRIGHT, The Chicago Academy of Science.
Birds of the Arid Southwest (30 minutes).

A portrayal of the Chicago Academy of Science's 1940 Arizona expedition. There were shown eighteen species of birds, together with a few shots of reptiles, desert flowers, and scenery.

21. LAWRENCE H. WALKINSHAW, Battle Creek, Michigan.
Some 1940 Crane Observations in Mississippi and Michigan. Illustrated in part by $3\frac{1}{4}$ " x 4" slides. (30 minutes).

Studies of the nesting areas and several nests of the Sandhill Crane in Mississippi; studies of spring movements, nesting, and fall movements and concentrations of the Sandhill Crane in Michigan.

22. LAWRENCE I. GRINNELL, Laboratory of Ornithology, Cornell University.

Birds of the Hudson Bay Tundra. (30 minutes).

A motion picture record taken by the speaker and Ralph S. Palmer during a visit to Churchill, Manitoba in June and July, 1940.

23. A. TREVENNING HARRIS, Gary, Indiana.

Nesting of the Ring-billed Gull and Caspian Tern in Wisconsin and the Red-headed Woodpecker and Bluebird in Indiana. (30 minutes).

Nesting studies of the Ring-billed Gulls and Caspian Terns on Barker's Reef in Lake Michigan (Wisconsin side); nesting studies of one Red-headed Woodpecker nest and three Bluebird nests.

24. MURL DEUSING, Milwaukee Public Museum.

Nesting Studies of the Marsh Hawk. (25 minutes).

Activities of Marsh Hawks at two nests studied during the summer of 1940 at Wind Lake, Racine County, Wisconsin.

A SYMPOSIUM OF WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

Directly following the papers session on Friday afternoon, a symposium on wildlife management was led by Aldo Leopold of the University of Wisconsin who served as Chairman.

I. *What Is Wildlife Management Like in Practice?*

What has it done for game? What has it done for (or to) songbirds? Raptors? Mammals? Food and Cover? What has it done for (or to) human attitudes toward all the above? How can the ornithologist or conservationist discriminate between good and bad management?

Discussion:

LAWRENCE E. HICKS, Ohio Wildlife Research Station.

The Farmer Cooperatives in Ohio.

ALDO LEOPOLD, University of Wisconsin.

The Farmer Cooperatives in Wisconsin.

WARREN W. CHASE, Soil Conservation Service.

The Soil Conservation Districts of the Central States.

II. *A General Discussion of the Above Questions Led by the Chairman.*

A SHOW OF NATURAL COLOR MOTION PICTURES

During Friday evening three members presented some of their latest motion pictures as follows:

Migrating Geese and Booming Prairie Chickens.

RALPH A. WOOLSEY, Minnesota Department of Conservation.

Bright Feathers of the Prairies.

OLIN SEWALL PETTINGILL, JR., Carleton College and the University of Michigan Biological Station.

With the Greatest of Ease.

CLEVELAND P. GRANT, Baker-Hunt Foundation, Covington, Kentucky.

Through the courtesy of the National Audubon Society, J. R. Pemberton's remarkable film, "The California Condor" was viewed at the conclusion of the show.

THE BIRD ART EXHIBIT

The University Gallery of the University of Minnesota cooperated with the Wilson Ornithological Club in the arrangement of an unusually impressive and representative bird art exhibit. The exhibit was held in the University Art Gallery

in Northrop Auditorium and was not only open to members and visitors during the meeting but was also open to the public from November 12 to 19.

Altogether 243 items were displayed, representing 35 named artists. All but a very few of the items were original works.

A *Special Committee for the 1940 Bird Art Exhibit* was responsible for assembling much of the material. This committee consisted of George Miksch Sutton, *Chairman*, R. T. Peterson and W. J. Breckenridge. Also a member of the committee was Mrs. Ruth Lawrence, Director of the Gallery. Upon her rested the arduous task of directing the unpacking and final arrangement of the exhibit.

Below is presented a list of the artists whose works were represented. When their works were not loaned by the artists themselves but by cooperating organizations, institutions and individuals, credit is given accordingly.

James E. Allen

Five etchings loaned by Kennedy & Company, New York City.

John James Audubon

Five prints loaned by Kennedy & Company, New York City.

Five prints loaned by Mrs. Franklin Crosby, Jr., Minneapolis.

Five plates from the Elephant Folio and five original sketches loaned by the Museum of Comparative Zoology, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Richard E. Bishop

Six prints.

Courtenay Brandreth

Five water colors.

Rex Brasher

Six water colors.

Walter J. Breckenridge

Four water colors

One etching

Allan Brooks

Two oil paintings

James L. Clark

Ten small paper weights loaned by the J. L. Clark Studios, Inc., New York City

E. S. Dingle

Three water colors

Louis Agassiz Fuertes

Two large oil paintings loaned by the New York Zoological Society.

One sketch loaned by William Kilgore, Minneapolis.

John Gould

Two prints loaned by Mrs. Franklin Crosby, Jr., Minneapolis.

Owen J. Gromme

Six oil paintings

Richard P. Grossenheider

One bronzed statue, two charcoal drawings, and one water color.

Charles E. Heil

Two water colors

H. Albert Hochbaum

Three paintings

R. Bruce Horsfall

Three large oil paintings loaned by the New York Zoological Society.

One oil painting and four water colors.

F. L. Jaques

Four paintings loaned by Kennedy and Company, New York City.

H. Jones

Four original paintings for Beebe's "Monograph of the Pheasants" loaned by the New York Zoological Society.

Bruno Liljefors

One painting loaned by Mrs. George P. Jeppson, Worcester, Massachusetts.

Harriet Lord

One painting

William A. Lunk

Four paintings

Athos Menaboni

Two paintings

Robert M. Mengel

Five water colors

William Montagna

Two paintings

O. J. Murie

Four oil paintings

Arthur D. Nelles

Three water colors

Roger T. Peterson

Five paintings

Ralph S. Palmer

Three paintings

William J. Schaldach

Six prints

Peter Scott

One painting loaned by Mrs. Paul Hammond, New York City.

Joel Stolper

Three paintings loaned by the New York Zoological Society.

George Miksch Sutton

One painting loaned by the New York Zoological Society

Three oil paintings and three water colors.

Walter A. Weber

One painting

Five paintings loaned by the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior.

Joseph Wolfe

Twenty-six prints from the "Birds of Paradise" collection of Daniel Giraud Elliot, loaned by the International Art Publishing Company.

Earl G. Wright

Two oil paintings and four water colors.

Miscellaneous exhibits included five bronzes loaned by Mrs. Franklin Crosby, Jr.; one book of paintings, five scroll paintings, one black and white rubbing, eight modern Japanese prints, two Chinese bird prints, seventeen Edwards and Albin prints, eight parrot prints, one toucan print, and ten hummingbird prints loaned by Mrs. Dwight E. Minnich, Minneapolis.

SOCIAL EVENTS

Members and guests of the Wilson Ornithological Club were invited to a tea given by the Local Committee in the University Gallery on Saturday afternoon. The tea was held in the rooms containing the Bird Art Exhibit.

During the preceding evening the staff of the Minnesota Museum of Natural History and members of the Minnesota Bird Club and Public Library Bird Club gave an informal reception to the Wilson Ornithological Club. The study collections of the Museum were open for inspection and there was a fine exhibit of rare bird books. The reception was followed directly by a show of motion pictures in the Auditorium.

THE ANNUAL DINNER

The Annual Dinner of the Wilson Ornithological Club took place in the new Coffman Memorial Union on Saturday evening. The menu was a particularly attractive one. When opened, the front and back covers together bore a handsome pen and ink sketch by Walter J. Breckenridge of an adult and four downy Wilson's Phalaropes. Each person attending the dinner received a Wilson Ornithological Club number of *The Flicker*, the quarterly publication of the Minnesota Ornithologist's Union.

President Lawrence E. Hicks opened the after dinner program with some humorous and philosophical remarks and then introduced Walter J. Breckenridge of the Minnesota Museum of Natural History who showed his excellent motion picture film, "Minnesota Cinemacaptures." Although birds were the predominating features of his film, the audience will not forget his intimate studies of ichneumon flies and numerous wildlife scenes along the St. Croix River.

ATTENDANCE

At the conclusion of the meeting the registration books revealed the largest attendance in the history of the Wilson Ornithological Club—together 353 persons.¹

One hundred and one of the persons in attendance were members: 11 were Councillors, 3 were Past Presidents. Several members traveled great distances to attend: among them were Ira N. Gabrielson of Washington, D.C.; Eleanor G. Cooley of Berwyn, Maryland; E. L. Nelson of New Brunswick, New Jersey; Theodora Nelson of New York City; Lawrence I. Grinnell and George Miksch Sutton of Ithaca, New York; and George B. Thorp of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

The record-breaking registration was accounted for in a large measure by local attendance: 51 members and 221 visitors from Minnesota. The state with the next largest attendance was Wisconsin, with nine members and eight visitors present. Twenty states and the District of Columbia were represented.

The list of members in attendance follows:

From Illinois: 8—C. O. Decker, Alfred Lewy, Mrs. M. M. Nice, E. G. Wright, Chicago; S. C. Kendeigh, Mrs. D. H. Speirs, J. M. Speirs, Champaign; K. E. Bartel, Blue Island. *Visitors*, 3.

From Indiana: 1—A. T. Harris, Gary. *Visitor*, 1.

From Iowa: 2—David Damon, Ames; Jean Laffoon, Sioux City. *Visitors*, 3.

From Kentucky: 1—C. P. Grant, Covington. *Visitor*, 1.

From Maryland: 1—E. G. Cooley, Berwyn.

From Michigan: 7—G. A. Ammann, Shingleton; B. W. Baker, Marne; M. D. Pirnie, L. H. Walkinshaw, Battle Creek; J. L. George, J. Van Tyne, H. H. Wilcox, Jr. Ann Arbor. *Visitors*, 2.

From Minnesota: 51—Miss L. M. Aler, W. J. Breckenridge, C. E. Carlson, Mrs. F. S. Davidson, John Dobie, Miss Jean Drum, R. W. Elliott, H. R. Engstrom, J. D. Fruen, Mrs. D. B. Green, A. M. Hartwell, Mrs. G. R. Magney, L. J. McCann, G. W. McCullough, W. H. Nord, Mrs. H. W. Rice, T. S. Roberts, G. N. Rysgaard, R. C. Schenck, M. D. Thompson, Mrs. R. H. Wells, Mrs. R. B. Wilson, Minneapolis; A. M. Berthel, W. T. Cox, W. Cummings, A. B. Erickson, Gordon Fredine, L. A. Fried, B. L. Hawkins, E. T. Mitchell, Mrs. W. P. Randel, C. T. Rollings, and G. Swanson, St. Paul; R. B. Lea, Miss Dorothy Mierow, Miss Peggy Muirhead, and O. S. Pettingill, Jr., Northfield; Miss Margaret Drum, Watonna; L. A. Parker, Faribault; K. G. Kobes, Holt; Marius Morse, Robbinsdale, U. C. Nelson, Fergus Falls; Miss Janet Buscho, Blue Earth; L. M. Butler,

¹ Other meetings with heavy total registration are as follows: 1938 Ann Arbor meeting (261), 1937 Indianapolis meeting (238), 1929 Des Moines meeting (202), 1934 Pittsburgh meeting (178), 1939 Louisville meeting (168).

White Bear; Mrs. C. E. Peterson, Madison; Mrs. E. O. Wilson, Montevideo; G. W. Friedrich, St. Cloud; R. H. Daggy, Bemidji; Miss G. M. Smith, Redwood Falls. *Visitors*, 221.

From Missouri: 1—R. P. Grossenheider, St. Louis. *Visitors*, 2.

From Montana: *Visitor*, 1.

From Nebraska: 2—F. W. Haecker, R. A. Moser, Omaha. *Visitors*, 2.

From New Hampshire: *Visitor*, 1.

From New Jersey: 1—E. L. Nelson, New Brunswick.

From New York: 3—L. I. Grinnell, G. M. Sutton, Ithaca; Miss Theodora Nelson, New York City.

From North Dakota: 6—Miss P. M. Stine, Minot; S. H. Low, Kenmare; O. A. Stevens, Fargo; H. C. Kyllingstad, Emrick; T. M. Street, Bottineau; C. J. Henry, Upham. *Visitors*, 3.

From Ohio: 4—L. E. Hicks, D. W. Jenkins, Columbus, E. L. Moseley, Bowling Green; T. W. Porter, Oak Harbor. *Visitor*, 1.

From Pennsylvania: 1—G. B. Thorp, Pittsburgh. *Visitors*, 2.

From South Dakota: *Visitor*, 1.

From Tennessee: 1—A. F. Ganier, Nashville.

From Washington, D.C.: 1—I. N. Gabrielson.

From West Virginia: 1—Maurice Brooks, Morgantown.

From Wisconsin: 9—Murl Deusing, C. S. Jung, Milwaukee; Aldo Leopold, W. E. Scott, F. R. Zimmerman, Madison; M. L. Partch, Columbia; Mrs. W. E. Rogers, Appleton; P. C. Gatterdam, La Crosse; Miss E. M. Heinke, Wausau. *Visitors*, 8.

Summary of Attendance: Total registration, 353 (Members, 101; Visitors, 252); Total from Minneapolis and St. Paul, 225 (Members, 33; Visitors, 192); Total from Minnesota, 272 (Members, 51; Visitors, 221). Total outside of Minnesota, 81 (Members, 50; Visitors, 31). Maximum number at each session: Friday morning, 140; Friday afternoon, 210; Saturday morning, 155; Saturday afternoon, 320. Approximate number at motion picture show Friday evening, 440. Number at Annual Dinner, 116. Number of persons in group photograph, 119.

REPORT OF THE LIBRARIAN FOR THE YEAR ENDING NOVEMBER, 1940

I have the honor to present herewith the tenth annual report of the Librarian of the Wilson Ornithological Club.

We have made no change in the arrangement of the library, having found it most usable in this form. We now have 107 bound volumes of books and a large number of pamphlets and reprints in the library. In addition there are over a hundred volumes of bound periodicals. We are receiving fifty-five periodicals. However, of this number, a few seem to have suspended publication because of the situation in Europe and Asia.

We have received 92 books, pamphlets, and reprints from members of the Wilson Ornithological Club, bird organizations and other interested societies. There were 28 contributors to the library this past year. A list of the donors to the library will be found in the March, June and December, 1940, issues of the Wilson Bulletin.

We hope other members will follow the example of the one who recently presented the library with a complete set of her own ornithological writings in the form of reprints and separate copies. Since this set was complete we have had it bound in buckram in one volume, which assures the greatest permanence and usefulness.

The reserve stock of the 1940 Wilson Bulletins have been received. A supply was set aside for current distribution, and the others were filed in the stock room provided by the University.

Respectfully submitted,

F. RIDLEN HARRELL, *Librarian*

November 19, 1940.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY FOR 1940¹

Membership in the Wilson Ornithological Club now totals 1040 and is classified as follows: Honorary, 5; Life, 7; Sustaining, 35; Active, 237; Associate, 756.

Altogether 182 members were lost during the year: 136 were delinquent in dues; 34 resigned; 12 were taken by death. We thus show a net loss of 4 members compared with the all-time high of last year.

All the states are now represented in the membership roll. The state with the greatest number of members is still Ohio, with Michigan 3 members behind. Present figures are: Ohio, 91; Michigan, 88. Illinois follows third with 79 members, New York fourth with 78 and Minnesota fifth with 77. I am pleased to point out a decided increase in numbers of members from California and Missouri.

The total distribution of members by states, provinces, and foreign countries is given below. The figures in parentheses indicate the number of members new to the organization in 1940.

UNITED STATES					
Alabama	5	(2)	New Mexico	6	(1)
Arizona	5		New York	78	(13)
Arkansas	6	(1)	Ohio	91	(5)
California	56	(8)	Oklahoma	12	(2)
North Carolina	9	(2)	Oregon	6	(2)
South Carolina	5		Pennsylvania	54	(7)
Colorado	11	(1)	Rhode Island	2	
Connecticut	8	(1)	Tennessee	21	(4)
North Dakota	12	(3)	Texas	23	(1)
South Dakota	2		Utah	8	(1)
Delaware	1		Vermont	2	(1)
Florida	12	(2)	Virginia	13	
Georgia	12		West Virginia	13	(1)
Idaho	2		Washington	6	(1)
Illinois	79	(15)	Washington, D. C.	24	(1)
Indiana	28	(4)	Wisconsin	30	(8)
Iowa	29	(1)	Wyoming	8	
Kansas	6	(2)	Alaska	2	
Kentucky	21	(2)	Virgin Islands	1	
Louisiana	8	(1)	CANADA		
Maine	5		British Columbia	2	
Maryland	15	(2)	Manitoba	5	(1)
Massachusetts	29	(5)	Ontario	18	
Michigan	88	(10)	Quebec	3	
Minnesota	77	(37)	Saskatchewan	2	
Mississippi	6		FOREIGN COUNTRIES		
Missouri	32	(9)	China	1	
Montana	6	(2)	Cuba	1	
Nebraska	9	(1)	Great Britain	1	(1)
Nevada	1		Netherlands	1	
New Hampshire	5	(1)	Northern Rhodesia	1	
New Jersey	12	(2)	Switzerland	1	
			Venezuela	2	(1)

¹ Revised through December 31, 1940.

In general the area of heaviest membership runs from New York and Pennsylvania west to Iowa and Minnesota. Each of these states, with the exception of Indiana and Wisconsin, has shown a steady rise in membership with two exceptions: Wisconsin and Indiana.

The burden of membership solicitation has been borne by Mr. Burt L. Monroe, Chairman of the Membership Committee. I am sure you will appreciate the great amount of time and personal inconvenience this work has necessitated. For us his work is heartening indeed, but for him, I imagine, it is rather discouraging. And why? While Mr. Monroe gathers in dozens of new members, the Club proceeds to lose dozens. When the total score is reckoned, a loss is shown! What can we do to prevent this serious loss of members each year, particularly the loss of members due to failure to pay dues? Mr. Monroe would like a solution to this problem; so would I.

During the year, 4,000 more membership solicitation folders were printed. They are exactly like those printed a year ago except for a few revisions to bring them up to date.

Each new member when elected is formally notified by the Secretary and given a questionnaire to fill out. "Formal" notification actually consists of a notification blank filled out with the new member's name and membership status, and bearing a date and the Secretary's signature. This year notification blanks of a new design were printed. They differ from the older ones in size and shape, wording, and the presence of a footnote calling attention to the fact that the Wilson Club operates on a calendar year basis and that *The Wilson Bulletin* is distributed accordingly.

I wish to express my thanks to the officers, members of the Executive Council, committee chairmen, and numerous members for their kind cooperation and prompt response to my various secretarial requests.

Respectfully submitted,

November 22, 1940.

OLIN SEWALL PETTINGILL, JR., *Secretary*.

REPORT OF THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE ¹

The drive for members during the year 1939 under our new system proved so successful that it was attempted again during this year. Lists were again submitted by the various state chairmen and all names were circularized.

Our results this year were not quite as good as those of the preceding year. The same amount of effort was expended in the work and the lists used were just as select. It is quite probable, however, that the unsettled condition of the country due to the war has diverted the people from outside interests, a condition which will eventually be remedied. We are gratified to be able practically to offset our annual losses due to members dropping out of the Club for various reasons.

To the time of this report, we have secured 165 new members: 3 Sustaining; 15 Active; 147 Associate. Minnesota led the list by turning in 37 members closely followed by Illinois with 15, New York with 13, Michigan with 10, Wisconsin and California with 8 each, and Pennsylvania with 7.

These results were obtained by the combined efforts of your officers, the members of the Membership Committee and individual members of the Club. Your Secretary and your Treasurer were largely responsible for the fine Minnesota showing.

The actual cost of solicitation by the Membership Committee has again been confined entirely to the cost of supplies and postage. No additional secretarial help has been used.

Respectively submitted,

November 22, 1940.

BURT L. MONROE, *Chairman*

¹ Revised through December 31, 1940.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER FOR 1940

RECEIPTS FOR 1940

Balance as shown by last report, Nov. 22, 1939.....	\$ 77.92
Dues and subscriptions.....	1,963.00
Contributions	240.00
Miscellaneous receipts	31.04
Total	\$2,311.96

DISBURSEMENTS FOR 1940

Refunds on mistaken subscriptions.....	\$ 3.25
Secretary's expense: clerical work, printing, postage, stationery.....	129.44
Annual meeting expense	176.46
Editor's expense: mailing, postage.....	37.90
Membership committee expense	12.33
Treasurer's expense: clerical work, postage, mimeographing, materials....	79.85
Miscellaneous: reprints (for which author paid W.O.C.), membership in Ecological Society	8.52
Bank charges: collection fees, returned checks.....	47.75
<i>Bulletin</i> expense: printing, engravings.....	1,701.89
Total	\$2,197.39
Balance on hand in St. Anthony Park State Bank, St. Paul, on Nov. 20, 1940	\$ 114.57

Respectfully submitted,

GUSTAV SWANSON, *Treasurer*.

November 22, 1940

Approved by Auditing Committee

Albert F. Ganier

Theodora Nelson

WILSON ORNITHOLOGICAL CLUB LIBRARY

The following gifts have been received recently:

Mary A. Bennett—2 reprints.

Maurice Brooks—4 reprints.

P. L. Errington—1 bulletin.

Olavi Kalela—"Über die Regionale Verteilung der Brutvogelfauna im Flussgebiet des Kokemäenjoki", 1938 (291 pp.).

Leon Kelso—Biological Leaflet No. 12.

Amelia R. Laskey—1 reprint.

Margaret M. Nice—"Measurements of Birds", Baldwin et al.; 1 reprint; 3 serials.

Edna Pennell—"Autobiography of a Bird Lover", F. M. Chapman; "Common Birds of Town and Country", H. W. Henshaw; "Audubon's Birds of America", W. Vogt; 9 reprints; 11 volumes of bird journals.

W. H. Phelps—1 reprint.

Henri Seibert—1 bulletin.

Arthur E. Staebler—1 reprint.

Richard L. Weaver—6 reprints.

THE WILSON BULLETIN PUBLICATION DATES

The actual dates of publication of the four numbers in 1940 were: March 28, June 27, September 27, December 27.